

Message Text

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R 101145Z NOV 75

FM AMEMBASSY KHARTOUM

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 645

INFO AMEMBASSY ADDIS ABABA

AMEMBASSY KINSHASA

AMEMBASSY LUSAKA

AMEMBASSY PRETORIA

UNCLAS KHARTOUM 2615

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PDEV, PFOR, PINS, AO, SU

SUBJ: MPLA INTERVIEW IN KHARTOUM

REF: KHARTOUM 2597

1. SUDAN NEWS AGENCY WEEKLY OF NOV 7 CARRIES INTERVIEW WITH MPLA REPRESENTATIVES ROBERT DE ALMEIDA AND LUIS NETO.

ANGOLANS REPORTEDLY SAID THEY VISITING KHARTOUM TO SEEK SUDAN'S HELP IN STOPPING INTERFERENCE IN ANGOLAN AFFAIRS BY UNSPECIFIED AFRICAN COUNTRIES. THEY ADDED THAT MPLA WOULD NOT ACCEPT MILITARY INTERVENTION FROM ANY QUARTER INCLUDING OAU OR UN. WITH RESPECT TO SUDANESE ASSISTANCE, THEY SAID THAT, "DURING THE LIBERATION WAR SUDAN HAD SUPPORTED ANGOLAN PEOPLE THROUGH ITS SUPPORT TO MPLA."

2. MPLA REPS CLAIM THAT RIVAL GROUPS FNLA AND UNITA ARE DIRECTED FROM ABROAD. IN REPLY TO QUESTION ABOUT SOVIET SUPPORT OF MPLA, REPS REPLIED AS FOLLOWS: "SOME WESTERN NEWSPAPERS DESCRIBED OUR MOVEMENT AS PRO-SOVIET OR PRO-MARXIST. THIS BECAME A HABIT IN WESTERN NEWSPAPERS WHEN THEY TALK ABOUT LIBERATION MOVEMENTS IN ANY COUNTRY. BUT I WOULD LIKE TO
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STATE HERE MAT OUR MOVEMENT - MPLA - IS AN INDEPENDENT MOVE-

MENT AND HAS NO CONNECTION TO ANY KIND OF GROUPING. DURING LIBERATION WR THE MOVEMENT WAS NOT ABLE TO OBTAIN FINANCIAL HELP, ARS AND AMMUNITION FROM WESTERN COUNTRIES WHICH WERE PARTNERS WITH PORTUGAL IN NATO. ACTUALLY IT WAS IMPOSSIBLE TO GET HELP FROM THOSE COUNTRIS BECAUSE OF THEIR ALLIANCE WITH PORTUGAL. THEREFORE MOVEMENT RESORTED TO SOVIET UNION AND SOCIALIST COUNTRIES SUCH AS YUGOSLAVIA, ROMANIA, CUBA AND EVEN CHINA. WE ALSO GOT HELP FROM AFRICAN COUNTRIES LIKE SUDAN, ALGEIA, TANZANIA AND CONGO (SIC), AND FROM SWEDEN AND HOLLAND (SIC). THOSE COUNTRIES HELP BY PROVIDING US EITHER WITH ARMS, AMMUNITION OR FOOD STUFFS AND MEDICINES. THE CHINESE HELP WAS CUT IN 1970."

3. COMMENT: APPEAS THAT CABLE FROM PRESIDENT NIMEIRI TO ANGOLAN LIBERATION FACTIONS REPORTED REFTEL WAS INDEED INENDED OFFSET MPLA REPS' ATTEMPT CLAIM SUDANESE SUPPOT FOR THEIR PARTICULAR MOVEMENT. IN ADDITION, "AL SAHAFA" EDITORIAL OF NOVEMBER 8 REPEATS SUDANESE DESIRE THAT DIFFERENT FACTIONS RESOLVE DISPUTES AND CONCENTRATE ON INDEPENDENCE.
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